

**WE CLAIM:**

1. An antimicrobial composition comprising octoxyglycerin, a quaternary ammonium compound, an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of a biguanide compound, triclosan, phenoxyethanol, an iodine compound and parachlorometaxyleneol, and a zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc gluconate, zinc oxide, zinc acetate, zinc stearate and zinc salicylate, wherein the zinc compound comprises between 0.2 and 7 percent.

2. An antimicrobial composition comprising between 1 and 5 percent (volume/volume) octoxyglycerin, between 0.05 and 0.2 percent of benzalkonium chloride, between 0.5 and 4 percent of chlorhexidine digluconate, and a zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc gluconate, zinc oxide, zinc stearate and zinc salicylate, wherein the zinc compound comprises between 0.2 and 7 percent.